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SOLAR/1057-78/10

Monthly Performance Report

ZEIN MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS NO. 1
OCTOBER 1978



National Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program

National Solar Data Program



NOTICE

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MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

ZEIN MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS NO. 1

OCTOBER 1978

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Zein Mechanical Contractors No. 1 is a single family residence in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The home has approximately 1304 square feet of conditioned space. The solar energy system consists of two independently controlled systems: one system serves domestic hot water (DHW) preheating, the other is used for space heating and space cooling. Only the space heating and cooling system is described in this report.

The system has an array of flat-plate collectors with a gross area of 384 square feet. The array faces south at an angle of 53 degrees to the horizontal. Air is the transfer medium that delivers solar energy from the collector array to storage. Solar energy is stored in a rock bin containing 41,250 pounds of rock located in the basement of the house. The rock bin has 2 inches of polyurethane insulation on the outside walls and fiberglass roll insulation in the ceiling. A heat pump delivers solar energy from storage to a heat exchanger located within an air-handler. Heated air is then blown from the air-handler to the load. When solar energy is insufficient to satisfy the space heating load, an electric resistance heater in the air-handler provides auxiliary energy for space heating. The system, shown schematically in Figure 1, has 10 modes of solar operation for space conditioning.

Mode 1 - Storage-to-Heat Pump-to-Space Heating: This winter mode activates when there is a demand for space heating, the collector loop is not active, and the outside ambient temperature is less than 10°F above the rock bed temperature. Air is drawn through motorized dampers from storage by the collector/heat pump circulating fan, past the heat pump evaporator coil, bypassing the collector, and returns to storage. The heat pump condenser coil and house circulating fan supply energy to the house and electrical strip heaters supplement the heat pump to meet the heating demand.

<u>Mode 2 - Collector-to-Storage</u>: This winter mode activates when the temperature difference between the collector outlet and storage is 10° F or higher, and the outside ambient temperature is less than 10° F above the rock bed temperature. Air is drawn from the collector by the collector/heat pump circulating fan and goes into the rock bin through motorized dampers and then recirculates through the collector. There may or may not be a demand for space heating.

Mode 3 - Outside Air-to-Rock Bed: This mode activates when the collector loop is inactive, there is no demand for space heating, and the outside ambient temperature is higher than 10°F above the rock bed temperature. Air is drawn from the outside by the collector/heat pump circulating fan and goes into the rock bin through motorized dampers and then exhausts to the outside through a backdraft damper in the wall of the insulated room.

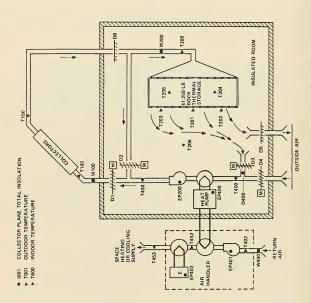


Figure 1. ZEIN MECHANICAL NO. 1 SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM SCHEMATIC

- Mode 4 Outside Air-to-Heat Pump-to-Space Heating: This winter mode activates when there is a demand for space heating, the collector loop is not active, and the outside ambient temperature is more than 10°F above the rock bed temperature. Air is drawn from the outside through motorized dampers, past the heat pump evaporator coil, through the storage bin, and then exhausts to the outside through a backdraft damper in the wall of the insulated room. The heat pump condenser coil and house circulating fan supply energy to the house. Electric strip heaters supplement the heat pump to meet the heating demand.
- Mode 5 Outside Air-to-Collector-to-Rock Bed: This mode activates when the difference in temperature between the collector outlet and storage is 10° for higher, and the outside ambient temperature is more than 10° fabove the rock bed temperature. Air is drawn from the outside by the collector/ heat pump circulating fan, goes through the collector and into the rock bin through motorized dampers, and then exhausts to the outside. There may or may not be a demand for space heating.
- <u>Mode 6 Storage-to-Heat Pump-to-Space Cooling:</u> This summer mode activates when there is a demand for space cooling, the collector loop is not active, and the rock bed temperature is less than 10°F above the outside ambient temperature. Air is drawn through motorized dampers from storage by the collector/heat pump fan, past the heat pump condenser coil, bypassing the collector, and returns to storage. The heat pump evaporator coil and house circulating fan remove energy from the house.
- Mode 7 Collector-to-Storage for Cooling: This mode rejects rock bed energy by circulating air through the collector at night. This summer mode activates when the temperature difference between the rock bed and the collector outlet is 10°F or higher, and the rock bed temperature is less than 10°F above the outside ambient temperature. Air is drawn from the collector at night by the collector/heat pump circulating fan and goes into the rock bin through motorized dampers and then recirculates through the collector. There may or may not be a demand for space cooling.
- Mode 8 Outside Air-to-Rock Bed for Cooling: This mode activates when the collector loop is inactive, there is no demand for space cooling, and the rock bed temperature is more than 10°F above the outside ambient temperature. Air is drawn from the outside by the collector/heat pump circulating fan and goes into the rock bin through motorized dampers and then exhausts to the outside through a backdraft damper in the wall of the insulated room.
- Mode 9 Outside Air-to-Heat Pump-to-Space Cooling: This summer mode activates when there is a demand for space cooling, the collector loop is not active, and the rock bed temperature is more than 10°F above the outside ambient temperature. Air is drawn from the outside through motorized dampers to the heat pump, past the heat pump condenser coil, through the storage bin, and then exhausts to the outside through a backdraft damper in the wall of the insulated room. The heat pump evaporator coil and house circulating fan remove energy from the house to meet the cooling load.
- $\underline{\text{Mode 10}}$ $\underline{\text{Outside Air-to-Collector-to-Rock Bed:}}$ This mode activates when the temperature difference between the rock bed and collector outlet is $10^\circ F$ or

higher, and the rock bed temperature is higher than $10^{\circ}F$ above the outside ambient temperature. Air is drawn from the outside by by the collector/ heat pump circulating fan, goes into the rock bin through motorized dampers, and is then exhausted to the outside. There may or may not be a demand for space cooling.

II. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION

The site was unoccupied in October; however, the solar energy system operated continuously during the month. Solar energy satisfied 49 percent of the space heating requirements. The solar energy system incurred an electrical energy expense of $0.16\ million\ Btu$.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

During the month, total incident solar energy on the collector array was 14.2 million Btu for a daily average of 1190 Btu per square foot. This was below the estimated average daily solar radiation for this geographical area during October of 1338 Btu per square foot for a south-facing plane with a tilt of 53 degrees to the horizontal. The average ambient temperature during October was 50°F as compared with the long-term average for October of 51°F .

THERMAL PERFORMANCE

<u>Collector</u> - The total incident solar radiation on the collector array for the month of October was 14.2 million Btu. During the period the collector loop was operating the total insolation amounted to 13.7 million Btu. The total collected solar energy for the month of October was 6.1 million Btu, resulting in a collector array efficiency of 43 percent, based on total incident insolation. Solar energy delivered from the collector array to storage was 6.1 million Btu. Operating energy required by the collector loop was 0.29 million Btu.

<u>Storage</u> - Solar energy delivered to storage was 6.1 million Btu. There were $\overline{0.23}$ million Btu delivered from storage to the space heating system. Energy loss from storage was 5.8 million Btu. This loss represented 95 percent of the energy delivered to storage. The storage efficiency was 5 percent: This is calculated as the ratio of the sum of the energy removed from storage and the change in stored energy, to the energy delivered to storage. The average storage temperature for the month was $92^{\circ}\mathrm{F}$.

<u>Space Heating Load</u> - The space heating system consumed 0.23 million Btu of solar energy and 0.25 million Btu of auxiliary electrical energy to satisfy a space heating load of 0.48 million Btu. The solar fraction of this load was 49 percent. The space heating system consumed a total of 0.15 million Btu of operating energy, resulting an an electrical energy savings of 0.13 million Btu.

OBSERVATIONS

The large storage losses are attributed to leakage from the collector loop which caused make-up air to be drawn into the insulated room through the outside air vents.

ENERGY SAVINGS

The solar energy system provided a net electrical energy expense of 0.16 million Btu. The space heating system contributed an electrical energy savings of 0.13 million Btu.

III. ACTION STATUS

No action is planned.

SOLAR HEATING AND COCLING DEMCNSTRATION PROGRAM

MONTHLY REPORT SITE SUMMARY

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REFERENC=: USER'S GUIDE TO THE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SCLAP DATA PROGRAM, FEBRUARY 28,1978, SOLAR/0004-78/18

SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

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SPLAF HEATING AND COOLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

MONTHLY REPORT ENERGY COLLECTION AND STORAGE SUBSYSTEM (ECSS)

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SOLAR PEATING AND COCLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

MONTHLY PEPORT STORAGE PERFORMANCE

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MONTHLY REPORT SPACE HEATING SUBSYSTEM

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MONTHLY REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

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